

Edwards: Madison and Grimes Counties Eligible for FEMA Hurricane Assistance, Congress to Pass Emergency Recovery Aid for Gulf Coast Residents By End of Month

(WASHINGTON, DC) –U.S. Representative Chet Edwards today announced that FEMA has made Madison and Grimes Counties in Congressional District 17 eligible for individual and public assistance for damages that resulted from Hurricane Ike.

“In the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, it is vital that federal, state and local authorities continue to work together diligently to protect and assist those in need,” said Edwards. “I encourage those individuals and families in Madison and Grimes County hard hit by Hurricane Ike to register with FEMA immediately to determine if federal assistance is available to them.”

Hurricane Ike left millions without power, thousands without a home to return to, and fuel, food, and ice shortages throughout the region. Currently, there are thousands of Hurricane Ike evacuees displaced throughout the Brazos Valley, and Madison and Grimes counties are almost completely without power. Edwards today pledged to work with the Texas delegation and leadership in the House and Senate to pass emergency appropriations to aid Gulf Coast recovery efforts before Congress adjourns at the end of the month.

“As the Brazos Valley opens its heart to fellow Texans in need, it is vital that Congress utilize federal funds swiftly to get the Gulf Coast region back on its feet,” said Edwards. “I am confident that Congress will pass emergency funding by the end of this month to assist our state and its citizens with recovery efforts in the wake of Hurricane Ike.” Edwards is a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee.

Individual Assistance (Assistance to individuals and households):

When the President declares a disaster and authorizes providing Individual Assistance, FEMA's Individuals and Households Program (IHP) can help homeowners and renters affected by the disaster with housing needs and necessary expenses. Public Assistance

(Assistance to State and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities)

The objective of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program is to provide assistance to State, Tribal and local governments, and certain types of Private Nonprofit organizations so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President.

Registration for assistance can be done in the following ways:

- Telephone. Call the toll-free number 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

Speech- or hearing-impaired callers can use the TTY number 1-800-462-7585

- Internet. Go to www.fema.gov
- At a shelter or Disaster Recovery Center, via a telephone. This year, FEMA will begin using mobile registration intake units to will travel to areas where telephone service is not available.

When registering, applicants will need to provide the following information:

- Name and Social Security number
- Address of the damaged property
- Current address and telephone number • Insurance information
- Total household annual income
- A bank routing and account number for direct deposit
- A description of your losses caused by the disaster

Applicants with questions about disaster assistance can call the Helpline: 1-800-621-FEMA

Speech- or hearing-impaired callers can use the TTY number 1-800-462-7585

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